

Floating and Sinking (*Over 2's*)

Discovering whether items float or sink can be a great way to introduce children to the concept of weight.



You will need:

- Sink/bath/large bowl/water tray
- Water
- A selection of objects of different weights

Intent: Be introduced to the concept of weight and experiment to discover whether a variety of objects sink or float.

Implementation: Provide the children with a sink full of water (can also be done in the bath) or a large washing-up bowl or water tray filled with water. Gather together a selection of different items from around the house, (you can use literally anything!) ensuring they are of varying weights, and place alongside the water for the children to experiment. Get the child to predict what they think will happen before they place the item in the water.

Links to the EYFS

Mathematical Development:

Orders two items by weight or capacity (40-60+ months)

Understanding the World:

Talks about why things happen and how things work. (30-50 months)

Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change. (40-60+ months)

Expressive Arts & Design:

Realises tools can be used for a purpose. (30-50 months)

Uses simple tools and techniques competently and appropriately. (40-60+ months)

Characteristics of Effective Learning:

Showing curiosity about objects, events and people, Using senses to explore the world around them, Engaging in open-ended activity, Taking a risk, engaging in new experiences, and learning by trial and error, Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time, Showing high levels of energy, fascination, Thinking of ideas, Finding new ways to do things, Making predictions, Testing their ideas, Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect